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*1. Background – A bit of background on what has led up to the Senegal mapping activities – task/milestone, timing, pilot, combined with NSA Sensitivity workshop.*

Root Change delivered a workshop March 7-8 with three objectives: (1) to introduce methods and tools for systems thinking to agricultural actors in Senegal, (2) to continue the pilot mapping activities initiated in Tanzania in July 2015, and (3) to associate the pilot mapping activities with Lead's NSA policy sensitization workshops.

Task Order #3, Milestone #2, for which this workshop was tasked, continues the work of creating a multi-country, multi-stakeholder map of agricultural sectors across Africa to support Lead's policy sensitization for non-state actors.

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*2. Objectives – of the design and launch and some sense of what you think was achieved and what might still need to be done.*

The week was designed in two parts: Monday and Tuesday were dedicated to the systems thinking and mapping components led by Root Change, while Wednesday and Thursday consisted of panels and other discussion led by Lead and the CNC that revolved around policy sensitization. Among the larger set of "workshop preparation activities," the previous Sunday (March 6) was also used to bring the teams (Lead, CNC, Root Change) together and norm the workshop activities for the week.

There are two aspects to consider: first, the teams' collective ability to bring our different aspects of the workshop together; and second, the delivery of those sessions. From the reactions of participants and the debriefings we held as a team, I think both of these aspects were very well addressed. There was excellent rapport among the CNC, Lead, and Root Change teams, and we managed to integrate our activities well with a light touch. Participants and team alike were very positive about the delivery of the activities.

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*3. Participants – A sense of who attended, level of participation, interest -- were the right people in the room? Any key groups not presented?*

Among the roughly sixty participants who attended the workshop there was a good mix of state and non-state actors. While the map in question is called the Non-State Actors Map, the Root Change mapping methodology does not limit itself to any specific kind of actor or geography. As long as the organizations identified within the map are involved in the sectors and activities of interest, they are considered relevant. Therefore, the participants invited by CNC and Lead were very appropriate for the initial launch of the map. As we continue to examine responses to the mapping surveys, the teams can coordinate with one another to target agents such as

government ministries, private sector organizations, etc., that are either missing or who we would like to become more involved. Similarly, plans for continuing the work such as the Learning Summits and Map Masters training can be designed to incorporate activities to expand the reach of work.

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#### 4. Sessions – Highlights / what worked what didn't?

Root Change planned four general sets of activities: (1) an introduction to systems thinking, (2) the actual mapping component, (3) an outreach and strategy session, and (4) a “Smart Lists” skills training exercise. 1 & 2 took place on Monday while 3 & 4 took place on Tuesday. Observations in brief:

- (1) The **systems thinking presentation** went well. We find this presentation is easy to understand but needs to be reinforced by subsequent activities to help participants operationalize the concepts.
- (2) The **mapping exercise** had to be modified in the moment due to issues with internet connectivity. Root Change used a classic pen-and-paper data collection methodology and fed the data into the platform “by hand” in the evening. In some ways, because some organizations were able to map online using personal we-access devices, this helped participants see gradual growth of the map over even a very short 2-day session. Either way, connectivity issues had minimal adverse impact.
- (3) The **outreach & strategy session** was the biggest change between the Tanzania and Senegal workshops. These sessions help participants understand that the mapping tool is not a self-activated, self-contained machine that trawls for data. Rather, the map is more a net we cast deliberately out into the sector. The sessions focus on how collectively all participants can support the system to involve other actors and create richer information. This helped reinforce the ideas of systems thinking and systems approaches, and led to good conversations about working collectively.
- (4) The **Smart Lists exercise**, which was meant as a practice session for using the map to explore activity relevant to your organization’s work, remained incomplete. The time instead provided an opportunity for discussion about the value of the map to participants within the context of Senegal, the validity of the data, and larger reasons why one would want such a tool to explore the sector around them. The practical-use skills developed in an exercise like Smart Lists can be unpacked in another session later down the line, so this is not a problem.

Overall, we were very glad to share some facilitation responsibilities with members of the CNC, especially in tying together the mapping activities of the first half of the week to the policy sensitization activities that were going to be taking place on Wednesday and Thursday. Even though these two pieces were more or less separate, that narrative connection was very useful for participants and served to reinforce both sets of activities – participants received tools with a purpose, and sensitization with skills.

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5. *The Map – What it looked like at the end of the launch what it looks like now.*

From the input of the 35 organizations that mapped (while there were over sixty participants, some organizations were represented by multiple participants), a total of 305 organizations were identified. Binding these organizations together were nearly 600 relationships between them across seven key areas of collaboration. Some organizations have entered to fill in profile information not gathered during the sessions due to internet connectivity, and to allow other members of their organizations to vet their peers' inputs and make their own contributions.

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Collaboration Area</b>	<b>Organizations</b>	<b>Connections</b>
1	Agricultural Production and Productivity	112	136
2	Advocacy and Mobilization	109	120
3	Research and Policy Analysis	78	93
4	Processing, Marketing, and Market Access	95	98
5	Organizational Effectiveness	58	55
6	Financial Resources	68	63
7	Product and Service Innovation	37	32

Our early analysis shows that among the collaboration areas, Agricultural Production and Productivity is the strongest, followed by Advocacy & Mobilization and Research & Policy Analysis. This differs from Tanzania, where the research and advocacy networks were the strongest by a wide margin. In Senegal, the network as a whole is balanced, but requires significant reinforcement in Product and Service Innovation, Financial Resources, and Organizational Effectiveness, all three of which are prime areas for improvement via capacity development initiatives such as the Feed the Future program.

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6. *Moving Forward / Next Steps – Best approach to populating / deepening the map given your experience with the group. The Learning Summit. Preparing the NSAs to manage the map. Any standouts that may be tapped for future roles in mapping activities.*

The map will be improved via the collection activities we design to address the above questions: (1) preparing NSAs for map management means having a rich discussion about what encourages participants to map and continue mapping; and (2) the Learning Summits are a major opportunity to have returning participants to update their relationships and strengthen their understanding of the map as a tool for strategic partnership.

We need to have a conversation early about the Map Masters training that will take place in conjunction with the Tanzania Learning Summit. These masters will become stewards of the maps in their respective countries and carry the initiatives forward both as technical experts and community mobilizers. They must hold trust and respect within their communities and proactively integrate the learnings into their work to serve as role models.